

MEMORANDUM

To: File

From: Ed Armenta, Forest Supervisor

Date: June 18, 2014

Subject: Forest Order #05-04-50-14-09



The Inyo National Forest "Interagency Fire Restriction Plan" approved February 7, 2014, and Forest Service Manual – 5110.4, give authority and guidance on implementing actions which reduce the risk of certain ignition sources.

Criteria for activation of prohibitions through Forest Orders are based on National Fire Danger Rating System indices and fuel moisture conditions. Specifically, they are: three day mean energy release component (ERC) is at 90th percentile in the unit's representative fuel model. Burning Index is 65 or greater for three consecutive days with a predicted stable or upward trend, and dead fuel moistures for thousand hour time lag fuels are <12%. The forest has met these criteria since about June 16, 2014 using the Crestview, Rock Creek, Benton and Oak Creek weather stations as representative sites. Current conditions reflect a Burning Index of more than 70 and thousand hour fuel moisture is 5% to 10%. These conditions will deteriorate throughout the summer due to a third consecutive year of drought.

Exemptions to the restrictions, defined by designated locations or activities governed by permit, are in place within the Forest Order due to a reduced likelihood of ignition, required measures to remove flammable vegetation, or extinguishment equipment on site. These requirements or conditions of permit allow certain uses not available to the general public to reduce the potential for fire ignitions to escape into the wildland.

I have concluded that this decision may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act. This action falls within the category identified in 36 CFR 220.6(d)(1) – prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety – and does not require documentation in a decision memo, decision notice, or record of decision. I have determined that there are no extraordinary circumstances associated with this temporary closure. Implementation of the decision may begin immediately.

ORDER NO. 05-04-50-14-09

Fire Restrictions
USDA Forest Service
Inyo National Forest

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b), and to protect natural resources and provide for public safety, the following acts are prohibited within the Inyo National Forest. This Order is effective from June 27, 2014, until the declared end of the 2014 fire season.

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, or stove fire, except in Developed Recreation Sites and Wilderness Areas listed in Exhibits A and C. 36 CFR 261.52(a).
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, within the Developed Recreation Sites listed in Exhibit A, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials. 36 CFR 261.52(d).
3. Welding, or operating an acetylene or other torch with an open flame. 36 CFR 261.52(i).
4. Using an explosive. 36 CFR 261.52(b).

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order.

1. Persons with a permit from the Forest Service specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission. Persons with a valid California Campfire Permit are not exempt from the prohibitions listed above. However, persons with a valid California Campfire Permit are allowed to use a portable stove or lantern using gas, jellied petroleum, or pressurized liquid fuel.
2. Any Federal, State or local officer or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty
3. Persons with a Special Use Permit from the Forest Service for a recreation residence in one of the residence tracts listed in Exhibit B, are exempt from Prohibition No. 1 while at their recreation residence, provided that the activity is done in compliance with the terms of the Permit.
4. Persons with a Special Use Permit from the Forest Service for a pack station or resort listed in Exhibit B, are exempt from Prohibition No.1 while at their pack station or resort, provided that the activity is done in compliance with the terms of the Permit.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

A violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559, 3571, and 3581.

Done at Bishop, California, on this 18 day of June, 2014.



Edward E. Armenta
Forest Supervisor
Inyo National Forest

ORDER 05-04-50-14-09
Fire Restrictions
USDA Forest Service
Inyo National Forest
Developed Recreation Sites
EXHIBIT A

MONO LAKE RANGER DISTRICT

Aspen
Lower Lee Vining
Moraine
June Lake Beach Picnic Area
Big Springs
Deadman
Glass Creek
Hartley Springs
Obsidian Flat
Gull Lake
June Lake
Oh! Ridge
Reversed Creek
Silver Lake
Big Bend
Ellery Lake
Junction
Sawmill
Tioga Lake
Saddlebag Lake
Grant Lake Marina/Campground

MAMMOTH RANGER DISTRICT

Convict Lake
New Shady Rest
Old Shady Rest
Sherwin Creek
Pine Glen
Coldwater
Twin Lakes
Lake George
Lake Mary
Pine City
Agnew Meadows
Minaret Falls
Reds Meadow
Pumice Flat
Upper Soda Springs

Pumice Flat
Tamarack
YMCA Camp (Sherwin Creek)
Crystal Crag
Mammoth Mountain Chalets
Mammoth Mountain RV Park
Sierra Meadow Ranch

WHITE MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT

Big Pine Creek
Sage Flat
Upper Sage Flat
Palisade Glacier
Clyde Glacier
Grandview
Noren
Nelson
Ferguson
Big Trees
Bishop Park
Forks
Four Jeffery
Bitterbrush
Intake 2 (walk-in)
Intake 2 Upper
Mountain Glen
North Lake
Sabrina
Willow
Bishop Park
Table Mountain
Big Meadow
East Fork
French Camp
Iris Meadow
Palisade
Pine Grove
Rock Creek Lake
Rock Creek Lake Group
Tuff
Upper Pine Grove
Holiday
Aspen
Mosquito Flat Trailhead
McGee Creek

MT. WHITNEY RANGER DISTRICT

Cottonwood Pass Backpacker

Cottonwood Lakes Backpacker

Horseshoe Meadow Equestrian

Lone Pine

Lone Pine Group

Whitney Portal

Whitney Portal Group

Whitney Trailhead

Upper Grays Meadow

Lower Grays Meadow

Onion Valley

ORDER 05-04-50-14-09
Fire Restrictions
USDA Forest Service
Inyo National Forest
Recreation Residence, Pack Stations and Resorts
EXHIBIT B

RECREATION RESIDENCE TRACTS

Crater Tract
Glass Creek Tract
Gull Lake Tract
June Lake Tract
Silver Lake Tract
Falls Tract
Lake George Tract
Lake Mary Tract
Mill City Tract
Sherwin Creek Tract
Twin Lakes Tract
Big Pine Tract
Lake Sabrina Tract
Palisades Tract
Pine Glade Tract
Rock Creek Tract
Lower Rock Creek Tract
South Fork Tract
Utter Tract
Whiskey Creek Tract
Seven Pines Tract
Whitney Portal Tract

PACK STATION AND RESORTS

Bishop Pack Outfitters
Cottonwood Pack Station
Frontier Pack Train
Glacier Pack Train
Mammoth Lakes Pack Outfit
McGee Creek Pack Station
Mount Whitney Pack Train
Pine Creek Pack Station
Rainbow Pack Outfitters
Rock Creek Pack Station
Sequoia Kings Pack Trains
Rock Creek Lodge
Kings Rock Creek Lakes Resort

Parchers Resort
Red's Meadow Resort and Pack Station
Sierra Meadows Ranch
Silver Lake Resort
Tioga Pass Resort
Pine Cliff Resort
Silver Lake Resort
Glacier Lodge
Whitney Portal Store
Sabrina Boat Landing
Golden Trout Camp
Toms Place Resort

ORDER 05-04-50-14-09

Fire Restrictions
USDA Forest Service
Inyo National Forest
Wilderness Areas
EXHIBIT C

MT. WHITNEY RANGER DISTRICT

John Muir Wilderness
Golden Trout Wilderness
South Sierra Wilderness

WHITE MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT

John Muir Wilderness
White Mountains Wilderness
Boundary Peak Wilderness

MAMMOTH RANGER DISTRICT

John Muir Wilderness
Ansel Adams Wilderness

MONO LAKE RANGER DISTRICT

Ansel Adams Wilderness
Hoover Wilderness